

Director, Mr. Dan McGuire, traveled to Finland, met directly with the members of the government over there who are in charge of the procurement of that grain. They have finalized the sale. It will be loaded at Lyman, Nebraska, sometime the first part of February. It will be transported in a 50-car unit train to Houston where it will be loaded on board a Finnish ship bound for Finland. This is, to my knowledge, the first substantial shipment of super clean wheat at a premium price to a foreign purchaser in the history of this kind of negotiation. It demonstrates that which we have said for many years, that Nebraska does produce a quality product, that there is a market for such a product, and that if we aggressively pursue it, we can make a substantial difference. Someone said, what is five cents per bushel worth to the Nebraska farmer and the Nebraska economy? I'd just like to point out that five cents per bushel on the average production of Nebraska commodities accounts for a \$50 million increase in the economy of this state. I would like to again commend the Nebraska Wheat Board, its members and its director. I'd like to express my appreciation also at this time to our Department of Agriculture and to Governor Orr for their cooperation, to Senator Jim Exon who assisted in securing the export and ANSI provisions necessary for Finland to participate in this process and to all the members of the Nebraska Congressional delegation who have also assisted in the culmination of this transaction. I'd like to also call attention to the fact that the Nebraska Congressional delegation were very active along with the Nebraska Wheat Board in promoting the bill which promoted the higher quality grain standards several years ago. Congressman Doug Bereuter from this district has at this time another bill which will tighten those standards even further. I think this shows that if we all work together we can do something positive and hopefully what we have done here is only...is a first step, but one which will be repeated many times over in the months and years ahead. I ask for your support of this resolution, and if Senator Warner is here, I would like to invite him to make some comments also.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the resolution offered by Senators Warner and Schmit, the gentleman from Hebron, Senator Coordsen, please.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I rise to support the resolution, also to commend the Wheat Board. For quite a number of years I was involved in the export market development of our fine agriculture products that are